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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,761	03/30/2001	Akihiro Furukawa	109133	3856

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EXAMINER	
REFAI, RAMSEY	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2152	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/820,761	FURUKAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ramsey Refai	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 January 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *2,3,7 and 10-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *2,3,7 and 10-15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Responsive to Amendment received January 22, 2007. Claims 2, 3, and 7 were amended. Claims 10-15 are new. Claims 2, 3, 7, and 10-15 are presented for further examination.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2, 3, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roy et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,859) in view of Bruck et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,949) and in further view of Tajika et al (US Patent No. 6,118,771).

4. As per claim 2, Roy et al teach an IP address setting device, comprising:

a plurality of nodes in a network (column 1, lines 6-26; devices on the network);

an IP setting device comprising: a request packet transmitting unit that transmits a request packet to a particular multicast address, the request packet requesting transmission of MAC addresses from nodes of a network (column 2, lines 31-42, figs 5A-5B);

a response reception unit that receives responses from the nodes to the request packet transmitted by the request packet transmitting unit, each response including the MAC address of a corresponding node (column 2, lines 31-50, figs 5A-5B);

a display that displays a list of nodes that transmitted responses (column 2, lines 22-30; webpage).

Roy et al teach when responses are received, they are parsed and the device information such as network address, name, etc are added to a list of discovered devices (column 2, lines 35-42) but fail to teach an address information designation unit (1) that, based on the responses received from the nodes by the response reception unit, designates one node to be set with address information including an 1P address and (2) that designates the address information, and a selection unit that enables a user to designate the one node to be set with address information from the list, an address information setting unit that designates the address information for the one node, and a setting packet transmission unit that transmits a setting packet to the particular multicast address, the setting packet including the address information set by the address information designation unit and the MAC address included in the response of the one node.

However, Bruck et al teach a GUI setup screen for setting up primary IP addresses for computers on a cluster by manually entering IP addresses into text box for each computer identified in the cluster. The user can view which devices need their IP addresses set, and can then manually set the IP address for each device (column 18, line 30-67, Figure 14).

Roy et al teach each device provides information such as network address information (column 2, lines 31-39) but fail to explicitly teach each device is a member of a particular multicast address.

However, Tajika et al teach terminals belonging to a specific group have the same multicasting address, which is used to transfer data to all terminals in that specific group (column 1, lines 55-67, column 2, line 65, column 3, line 11, column 3, lines 60-65).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant' s invention to combine the teachings for Roy et al, Bruck et al, and Tajika et al

because doing so would create a method of setting IP addresses devices for a specific group of device using a multicasting address by using hardware identification information, displaying those discovered devices on the user interface and then manually assigning IP addresses to those discovered devices

5. Claims 3 and 7 contain similar limitations as claim 2 above, therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

6. As per claims 10, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al teach wherein each node stores data of the particular multicast address (Tajika et al: column 27, lines 55-61, fig 30)

7. As per claim 11, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al teach comprising a router, the nodes and the IP address setting device communicating via the router (Roy et al fig 1, network inherently contains routers).

8. As per claim 12, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al wherein each node stores data of the particular multicast address (Tajika et al: column 27, lines 55-61, fig 30).

9. As per claim 13, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al teach further comprising a router, the nodes and the IP address setting device communicating via the router (Roy et al fig 1, network inherently contains routers).

10. As per claim 14, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al teach wherein each node stores data of the particular multicast address each node performing the notifying step to provide notification that the node is the member of the particular multicast address (Tajika et al: column 27, lines 55-61, fig 30, column 2, lines 31-39),

11. As per claim 15, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Tajika et al teach wherein the request packet and the setting packet are transmitted from an IP address setting device via a router to the particular multicast address of the nodes (Roy et al fig 1, network inherently contains routers).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Refai whose telephone number is (571) 272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner' s supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramsey Refai
Examiner
Art Unit 2152
April 12, 2007

WILLIAM VAUGHN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100